

Applicant: Cheng-Liang Hou

Examiner: Jain, Raj K.

Serial No.: 10/694,732

Group Art Unit: 2651

Filed: October 29, 2003

Docket No.: 0063-115001/BU3130

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VARIABLE DATA TRANSMISSION RATE RESOLUTION

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

storing a first plurality of data transmission rates in a register, wherein each of the first plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a first incremental value;

storing a second plurality of data transmission rates in a register, wherein each of the second plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a second incremental value greater than the first incremental value;

receiving a request to transmit data over a port of a switch at a requested transmission rate;

selecting one of the first plurality of data transmission rates or one of the second data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate; and

transmitting data through the port using the selected data transmission rate.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the first plurality of data transmission rates.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

storing a third plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of the third plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a third incremental value greater than the second incremental value;

selecting one of the first plurality of data transmission rates, one of the second data transmission rates, or one of the third plurality of data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate.

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4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the rates of the third plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the first incremental value is 64 Kbps, the ~~first~~ second incremental value is 1 Mbps, and the third incremental value is 8 Mbps.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein a first plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 0 Kbps to 2 Mbps, a second plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 2 Mbps to 100 Mbps, and third plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 100 Mbps to 1000 Mbps.

8. (Previously Presented) A data transmission rate control system, comprising:

- means for storing a first plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of the first plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a first incremental value;
- means for storing a second plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of the second plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a second incremental value greater than the first incremental value;
- means for receiving a request to transmit data over a port of a switch at a requested transmission rate;
- means for selecting one of the first plurality of data transmission rates or one of the second data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate; and
- means for transmitting data through the port using the selected data transmission rate..

9. (Previously Presented) A data transmission rate control system, comprising:

- registers configured for storing a first plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of

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---

the first plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a first incremental value;

registers configured for storing a second plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of the second plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a second incremental value greater than the first incremental value;

a receiving engine configured for receiving a request to transmit data over a port of a switch at a requested transmission rate;

a rate setting engine configured to select one of the first plurality of data transmission rates or one of the second data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate; and

a transmission engine, communicatively coupled to the rate setting engine, the transmission engine configured to transmit data through the port using the selected data transmission rate.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the first plurality of data transmission rates.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising:.

registers configured for storing a third plurality of data transmission rates, wherein each of the third plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a third incremental value greater than the second incremental value; and

wherein the rate setting engine is further configured to select one of the first plurality of data transmission rates, one of the second data transmission rates, or one of the third plurality of data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the rates of the third plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates.

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13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the first incremental value is 64 Kbps, the ~~first~~ second incremental value is 1 Mbps, and the third incremental value is 8 Mbps.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein a first plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 0 Kbps to 2 Mbps, a second plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 2 Mbps to 100 Mbps, and third plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 100 Mbps to 1000 Mbps.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions to cause a processor to execute a method, the method comprising:

storing a first plurality of data transmission rates in a register, wherein each of the first plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a first incremental value;

storing a second plurality of data transmission rates in a register, wherein each of the second plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a second incremental value greater than the first incremental value;

receiving a request to transmit data over a port of a switch at a requested transmission rate;

selecting one of the first plurality of data transmission rates or one of the second data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate; and

transmitting data through the port using the selected data transmission rate.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the first plurality of data transmission rates.

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18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, further comprising:

storing a third plurality of data transmission rates in a register, wherein each of the third plurality of data transmission rates are spaced from each other by a third incremental value greater than the second incremental value;

selecting one of the first plurality of data transmission rates, one of the second data transmission rates, or one of the third plurality of data transmission rates at which to transmit data over the port, wherein the selected transmission rate is based on the requested transmission rate.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the rates of the third plurality of data transmission rates are greater than the rates of the second plurality of data transmission rates.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the first incremental value is 64 Kbps, the ~~first~~ second incremental value is 1 Mbps, and the third incremental value is 8 Mbps.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein a first plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 0 Kbps to 2 Mbps, a second plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 2 Mbps to 100 Mbps, and third plurality of data transmission rates includes rates from 100 Mbps to 1000 Mbps.